THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Universalisation of Primary Education

1552. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to universalise the Primary Education;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this regard;

(c) what are the benefits likely to accrue therefrom;

(d) whether any tentative period for universalisation of Primary Education has been fixed; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) It is already an accepted policy of the Government in accordance with Article 45 of the Constitution, that all children should get free and compulsory education till they complete 14 years of age. The National Policy on Education 1986 recommended that this should be achieved by 1995. Government is making requisite endeavour to provide Universal elementary education and some of the main steps being taken to achieve this goal are:—

(i) the provision of primary schools within 1 km. walking distance from all habitations with a population of 300. In the cse of SC/ST habitations. the norms is relaxed to include habitations with population of 200;

(ii) improvement of facilities in primary schools under the scheme of Operation Blackboard;

(iii) programmes of part-time Non-Formal Education to school dropouts, girls, working children who cannot attend whole day schools;

(iv) establishment of District Institutes of Education and Training for improving teacher effectiveness;

(v) Provision of incentives to socio-economically backward children for free uniform, free textbooks, attendance scholarship for girls and provision of mid-day meals;

(vi) provision of upper primary schools and upgrading of primary schools to upper primary level according to the norms.

Holding of Afro-Asian Games

1553. CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH: SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 172 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd November, 1991 and state:

(a) the estimated expenditure on hosting Afro-Asian Games in the country next year; and

(b) whether Government propose to keep in view the current constraint on resources while considering the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has estimated an expenditure of Rs. 14.82 crores for hosting of AFRO-ASIAN GAMES, if held, which they will be raising through sponsors etc. The Government is estimated to spend a sum of Rs. 2.73 crores on renovation/repair/upgradation of infrastructure facilities, which would be of lasting value.

(b) Yes, Sir.

National Youth Policy

1554. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any National Youth Policy;

(b) whether any changes have been made in the draft of the policy prepared by the previous Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when this policy is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (d) The Government had formulated a National Youth Policy and tabled it before the Rajya Sabha during November, 1988 and Lok Sabha during December, 1988. It was also notified in the Gazette of India on 15th May, 1989. It is under implementation, which is a continuous process.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

Affairs of Kendriya Vidyalayas

1555. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the write-ups on the affairs of Kendriya Vidyalayas as published in the Rashtriya Sahara dated 13th to 18th November, 1991; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The matters reported in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' between 14th to 17th November, 1991 relate to admissions under special dispensation at the cost of higher priority children, and various routine administrative matters.

As regards admissions under special dispensation, these are given over and above the admissible class ceiling and, therefore, do not affect the eligible category of children.

Admissions on special dispensation were discontinued in the year 1987-88. The position was reviewed by the then Chairman in July 1988 and it was decided that admissions by special dispensation should be possible in the larger social considerations. It was decided that the requests relating to Government servants and public sector employees as well as of peoples' representatives would be given due consideration while cases requiring compassion will receive sympathetic consideration.

The special dispensation admissions were again stopped during April—December 1990. Again in December 1990, the then Chairman, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, reviewed the provision to exercise discretionary powers, observing that due weightage has to be given to the recommendations of the Hon'ble Members of Parliament who are supposed to make these in public interest.